



Genomic DNA clean-up

User manual

NucleoSpin® gDNA Clean-up XS

July 2014 / Rev. 05

MACHEREY-NAGEL

www.mn-net.com



Genomic DNA clean-up

Protocol-at-a-glance (Rev. 05)

XS

NucleoSpin® gDNA Clean-up XS

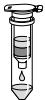
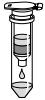
1 Prepare sample		Adjust up to 400 µL aqueous sample with buffer TE to 800 µL
2 Adjust DNA binding conditions		200 µL NT
3 Bind DNA		Load 500 µL diluted sample 11,000 x g 30 s  Load remaining sample 11,000 x g 30 s
4 Wash silica membrane		Turn spin cup inside the centrifuge by 180° compared to the loading position  100 µL B5 11,000 x g 2 min
5 Elute DNA		1. 6–15 µL BE 11,000 x g 1 min  2. 6–15 µL BE 11,000 x g 1 min
6 Removal of residual ethanol and concentration		90 °C 8 min (2 x 10 µL elution) or 5 min (10 µL elution)

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1 Components

1.1 Kit contents

NucleoSpin® gDNA Clean-up XS			
REF	10 preps 740904.10	50 preps 740904.50	250 preps 740904.250
Binding Buffer NT	25 mL	25 mL	75 mL
Wash Buffer B5 (Concentrate)*	6 mL	6 mL	6 mL
Elution Buffer BE**	13 mL	13 mL	13 mL
NucleoSpin® gDNA Clean-up XS Columns (light green rings)	10	50	250
Collection Tubes (2 mL)	30	3 x 50	3 x 250
User manual	1	1	1

* For preparation of working solutions and storage conditions see section 3.

**Composition of Elution Buffer BE: 5 mM Tris/HCl, pH 8.5

1.2 Reagents, consumables, and equipment to be supplied by user

Reagents

- 96–100 % ethanol
- Buffer TE (e.g., 10 mM Tris/HCl pH 7.5, 0.1 mM EDTA)

Consumables

- 1.5 mL microcentrifuge tubes (for sample lysis and DNA elution)
- Disposable pipette tips

Equipment

- Manual pipettors
- Thermal heating block
- Centrifuge for microcentrifuge tubes
- Personal protection equipment (lab coat, gloves, goggles)

1.3 About this user manual

It is strongly recommended that first-time users of the **NucleoSpin® gDNA Clean-up XS** kit read the detailed protocol sections of this user manual. Experienced users, however, may refer to the Protocol-at-a-glance instead. The Protocol-at-a-glance is designed to be used only as a supplemental tool for quick referencing while performing the purification procedure.

All technical literature is available on the internet at www.mn-net.com.

2 Product description

2.1 Basic principle

The **NucleoSpin® gDNA Clean-up XS** kit is designed for a fast and convenient purification of genomic DNA from aqueous samples (e.g., phenol/chloroform extracts). PCR inhibitors (e.g., indigo) are efficiently removed and DNA is concentrated with high recovery. Due to its high sensitivity the kit is particularly well suited for trace levels of DNA from forensic samples. The optimized protocol allows for up to 400 µL of aqueous sample to be processed without the need for error-prone repeated loading steps. However, multiple loading steps can be used without difficulty to process larger sample volumes. The special funnel design of the thrust rings inside the **NucleoSpin® gDNA Clean-up XS Column** in combination with the very small membrane allows for high recovery with very small elution volumes (5–30 µL) which results in highly concentrated DNA.

Appropriate conditions under which DNA binds to the silica membrane are created by addition of Binding Buffer NT. The mixture is then applied to the **NucleoSpin® gDNA Clean-up XS Column** and the DNA binds to a silica membrane. A subsequent washing step efficiently removes contaminations and highly pure DNA is finally eluted with 5–30 µL of a slightly alkaline elution buffer of low ionic strength (5 mM Tris/HCl pH 8.5).

2.2 Kit specifications

- The **NucleoSpin® gDNA Clean-up XS** kit is recommended for the purification and concentration of genomic DNA from very dilute aqueous samples. Typical sample materials comprise for example PCR inhibitor containing solutions, Proteinase K reaction mixtures, or the aqueous phase of phenol/chloroform extractions.
- The robust membrane allows for multiple loading steps to process even large sample volumes.
- The special column design and the very small membrane lead to a significantly reduced dead volume which allows for high recovery of small amounts of DNA with as little as 5–30 µL elution buffer.
- DNA is ready-to-use for all common downstream applications like (e.g., real-time PCR).
- The preparation time is approximately 20 min for 6–12 samples.

Table 1: Kit specifications at a glance

Parameter	NucleoSpin® gDNA Clean-up XS
Sample material	< 400 µL solution containing < 2 µg DNA
Typical recovery	60–70 %
Fragment size	100 bp–approx. 50 kbp
A ₂₆₀ /A ₂₈₀	1.8–1.9
Elution volume	6–15 µL
Preparation time	20 min/6 preps (exclusive preceding extraction or lysis)
Format	Mini spin column – XS design

- Forensic quality product:**

NucleoSpin® gDNA Clean-up XS is certified as forensic quality product. Consumables used in forensics need to be treated carefully to prevent DNA contamination. MACHEREY-NAGEL therefore has a stringently controlled production process to avoid DNA contamination of consumables. Further, MACHEREY-NAGEL uses ethylene oxide (EO) treatment to remove amplifiable DNA, which might still be introduced during the manufacturing process. MACHEREY-NAGEL products carrying the forensic quality seal, contain plastic materials that are EO treated. This means, DNA of any kind, which might still be introduced into plastic consumables during the production process, is inactivated by means of the treatment with ethylene oxide, in order to prevent the generation of accidental human profile by PCR amplification. Ethylene oxide treatment has been shown to be the method of choice to prevent DNA profiles due to DNA contamination (Shaw *et al.* 2008; Figure 1).

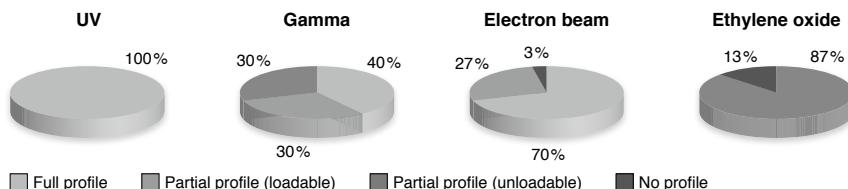


Figure 1: According to Shaw *et al.*, 2008, Comparison of the effects of sterilization techniques on subsequent DNA profiling. Int J Legal Med 122: 29–33.

2.3 Handling of sample material

The **NucleoSpin® gDNA Clean-up XS** procedure is designed for very small amounts of genomic DNA and the typical downstream applications are thus very sensitive. It is consequently highly recommended to perform sampling and DNA purification with special care, in order to avoid a contamination of the sample or the purified DNA with unwanted DNA-containing material (e.g., fingerprints, hair particles, aerosol, dust).

Moreover, a cross-contamination between samples has to be excluded. The following precautions are recommended:

- Wear personal protection equipment (lab coat, gloves, goggles).
- Use aerosol resistant pipette tips.
- Always change pipette tips between liquid transfers.
- Briefly centrifuge after mixing steps in order to remove droplets from tube lid.

2.4 Elution procedures

A high DNA concentration in the elution fraction is of importance and desirable for all typical downstream applications. This is of particular interest if the total volume of a reaction mixture is limited as this in turn limits the possible amount of DNA that can be added. Due to a high default elution volume, classical DNA clean-up kits often result in weakly concentrated DNA, if only small amounts of DNA are processed.

Such DNA may even require a subsequent concentration before it can be used for typical downstream applications.

In contrast to classical kits, **NucleoSpin® gDNA Clean-up XS** allows for efficient elution in a very small volume which results in highly concentrated DNA.

For forensic samples elution with $2 \times 6 \mu\text{L}$ is recommended to maximize concentration and yield. A two-fold elution generally yields more DNA than just one elution with the same total buffer volume. Optionally, the second elution can be omitted to achieve the highest possible DNA concentration.

In general, larger volumes ($10\text{--}30 \mu\text{L}$) increase the overall DNA yield but naturally reduce the final DNA concentration. Elution buffer volumes $> 30 \mu\text{L}$ will only slightly increase total DNA yield.

2.5 Concentration and removal of residual ethanol

For most applications removal of trace levels of ethanol is not required. However, if a large volume of eluate has to be used as PCR template a heat incubation of the eluate is recommended. An incubation of for example 8 min at 90°C for a $20 \mu\text{L}$ eluate removes residual ethanol in the eluate and concentrates the DNA to approximately $11 \mu\text{L}$ resulting in a significantly increased sensitivity in downstream applications.

The template may then represent up to 40% of the total PCR reaction volume. The necessity of this step may be individually tested.

An incubation at 90 °C, however, will denature DNA. If non-denatured DNA is required for downstream applications other than PCR (e.g., ligation or cloning) we recommend an incubation of 17 min at 75 °C to remove ethanol from an eluate of 20 µL.

Even if ethanol is of no concern for the downstream application the heat incubation is a useful means to concentrate an eluate. Use Figure 2 to estimate the necessary incubation time depending on your elution volume and the intended final volume. Take into consideration that incubation times may vary depending on the heating block or microcentrifuge tubes that are used. Shaking the tubes during incubation increases the evaporation rate even more.

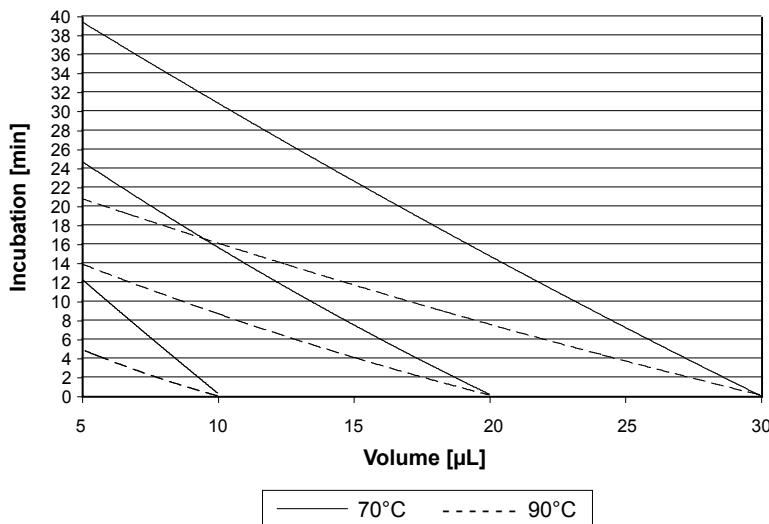


Figure 2: Concentration and removal of residual ethanol from eluates by heat treatment.
Eluates of 10, 20, and 30 µL were incubated at 75 °C (non-denaturing) and 90 °C (denaturing) for 0–40 min without shaking. Choose your final volume and read the necessary incubation time from the appropriate curve. For other starting volumes just interpolate the array of curves.

3 Storage conditions and preparation of working solutions

Attention:

Buffer NT contains guanidinium thiocyanate. Wear gloves and goggles!

Storage conditions:

- All kit components can be stored at room temperature (18–25 °C) and are stable for at least one year.

Before starting any **NucleoSpin® gDNA Clean-up XS** protocol prepare the following:

- **Wash Buffer B5:** Add the indicated volume of ethanol (96–100 %) to **Buffer B5 Concentrate**. Mark the label of the bottle to indicate that ethanol was added. Wash Buffer B5 can be stored at room temperature (18–25 °C) for at least one year.

NucleoSpin® gDNA Clean-up XS			
REF	10 preps	50 preps	250 preps
Wash Buffer B5 (Concentrate)	740904.10	740904.50	740904.250
	6 mL Add 24 mL ethanol	6 mL Add 24 mL ethanol	6 mL Add 24 mL ethanol

4 Safety instructions

The following components of the **NucleoSpin® gDNA Clean-up XS** kits contain hazardous contents.

Wear gloves and goggles and follow the safety instructions given in this section.

GHS classification

Only harmful features must not be labeled with H and P phrases up to 125 mL or 125 g.

Mindergefährliche Eigenschaften müssen bis 125 mL oder 125 g nicht mit H- und P-Sätzen gekennzeichnet werden.

Component	Hazard contents	GHS symbol	Hazard phrases	Precaution phrases
Inhalt	Gefahrstoff	GHS Symbol	H-Sätze	P-Sätze
NT	Guanidinium thiocyanate 30–60 % Guanidiniumthiocyanat 30–60 %		Warning Achtung	302, 412, EUH031 260, 273, 301+312, 330

Hazard phrases

- H 302 Harmful if swallowed.
Gesundheitsschädlich bei Verschlucken.
- H 412 Harmful to aquatic life with long lasting effects.
Schädlich für Wasserorganismen, mit langfristiger Wirkung.
- EUH031 Contact with acids liberates toxic gas.
Entwickelt bei Berührung mit Säure giftige Säure.

Precaution phrases

- P 260 Do not breathe vapours.
Dampf nicht einatmen.
- P 273 Avoid release to the environment.
Freisetzung in die Umwelt vermeiden.
- P 301+312 IF SWALLOWED: Call a POISON CENTER/ doctor/...if you feel unwell.
BEI VERSCHLUCKEN: Bei Unwohlsein GIFTINFORMATIONSZENTRUM / Arzt/... anrufen.
- P 330 Rinse mouth.
Mund ausspülen.

For further information please see Material Safety Data Sheets (www.mn-net.com).
Weiterführende Informationen finden Sie in den Sicherheitsdatenblättern (www.mn-net.com).

5 NucleoSpin® gDNA Clean-up XS protocol

Before starting the preparation:

- Check if Wash Buffer B5 was prepared according to section 3.
- Prepare buffer TE (e.g., 10 mM Tris/HCl pH 7.5, 0.1 mM EDTA)

1 Prepare sample

Note: The following dilution step with TE buffer might not be necessary for highly concentrated samples, for uncomplicated pre-purified DNA, or non-forensic samples.

For < 400 µL sample solution, dilute with **buffer TE** (not provided) to a final volume of 800 µL.



+ TE
to a final
volume of
800 µL

For > 400 µL sample solution, add 1 vol of **buffer TE** and increase Buffer NT proportionally in step 2.

Mix thoroughly by vortexing and spin down briefly to clear the lid.

2 Adjust DNA binding conditions

Add 200 µL Buffer NT per 800 µL diluted or undiluted sample (e.g., add 100 µL Buffer NT to 400 µL sample).



+ 200 µL NT
per 800 µL
of sample

Mix thoroughly by vortexing. Spin down briefly to clear the lid.

3 Bind DNA

For each sample, place one **NucleoSpin® gDNA Clean-up XS Column** into a **Collection Tube (2 mL)**.



Load 500 µL
sample

Add 500 µL of binding mixture to the column. Centrifuge for **30 s at 11,000 x g** and discard the flow-through.



11,000 x g
30 s

Add the remaining binding mixture to the column and centrifuge for **30 s at 11,000 x g**.



Load
remaining
sample

Place the column into a new **Collection Tube (2 mL)**.

11,000 x g
30 s

4 Wash silica membrane

Turn the NucleoSpin® gDNA Clean-up XS Column inside the centrifuge by 180° compared to the loading position in order to allow optimal washing efficiency.

Add **100 µL Buffer B5**.

Centrifuge for **2 min at 11,000 x g**.

5 Elute DNA

Place the NucleoSpin® gDNA Clean-up XS Column into a 1.5 mL microcentrifuge tube (not supplied).

Add **6–15 µL Buffer BE** directly to the center of the membrane.

Centrifuge for **1 min at 11,000 x g**.

Add another **6–15 µL Buffer BE** directly to the center of the membrane.

Centrifuge for **1 min at 11,000 x g**.

Note: The elution volume can be varied from 5–30 µL. The second elution step can be omitted leading to higher concentration but lower yield. See section 2.4 for more information.

6 Removal of residual ethanol and concentration

Incubate eluate with open lid at **90 °C** for **8 min** (2 x 10 µL elution) or **5 min** (10 µL elution).

Note: For different elution volumes or incubation at 75 °C for non-denatured DNA see section 2.5 for detailed information.



+ **100 µL B5**
11,000 x **g**
2 min



+ **6–15 µL BE**
11,000 x **g**
1 min



+ **6–15 µL BE**
11,000 x **g**
1 min



90 °C, 8 min
(**2 x 10 µL**
elution)

or

90 °C, 5 min
(**10 µL**
elution)

6 Appendix

6.1 Troubleshooting

Problem	Possible cause and suggestions
Low DNA yield	<p><i>Reagents not prepared properly</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add the indicated volume of 96–100 % ethanol to the Buffer B5 Concentrate and mix well before use.
No increase of PCR signal despite an increased volume of eluate used as template	<p><i>Residual ethanol in eluate</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please see the detailed description of removal of residual traces of ethanol in section 2.5. <p><i>Carry-over of chaotropic salts</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perform a second washing step with Buffer B5 to remove last traces of Buffer NT.
Discrepancy between A ₂₆₀ quantification values and PCR quantification values	<p><i>Silica abrasion from the membrane</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due to the typically low DNA content in very small samples and the resulting low total amount of isolated DNA, DNA quantification via A₂₆₀ absorption measurement is often hampered by the low sensitivity of this method. When performing absorption measurements close to the detection limit of the photometer, the measurement may be influenced by minor amounts of silica abrasion. In order to prevent incorrect A₂₆₀ quantification of small DNA amounts centrifuge the eluate for 30 s at > 11,000 x g and take an aliquot for measurement without disturbing any sediment. Alternatively, use a silica abrasion insensitive DNA quantification method (e.g., PicoGreen® fluorescent dye).
A ₂₆₀ /A ₂₈₀ ratio too high or too low	<p><i>Measurement not in the range of photometer detection limit</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In order to obtain a significant A₂₆₀/A₂₈₀ ratio it is necessary that the initially measured A₂₆₀ and A₂₈₀ values are significantly above the detection limit of the photometer used. An A₂₈₀ value close to the background noise of the photometer will cause unexpected A₂₆₀/A₂₈₀ ratios.

6.2 Ordering information

Product	REF	Pack of
NucleoSpin® gDNA Clean-up XS	740904.10	10 preps
	740904.50	50 preps
	740904.250	250 preps
NucleoSpin® gDNA Clean-up	740230.10	10 preps
	740230.50	50 preps
	740230.250	250 preps
Buffer NT	740614.100	100 mL
Buffer B5 (Concentrate) (for 100 mL Buffer B5)	740921	20 mL
Buffer BE	740306.100	100 mL
Collection Tubes (2 mL)	740600	1000

Visit www.mn-net.com for more detailed product information.

6.3 Product use restriction/warranty

NucleoSpin® gDNA Clean-up XS kit components are intended, developed, designed, and sold FOR RESEARCH PURPOSES ONLY, except, however, any other function of the product being expressly described in original MACHEREY-NAGEL product leaflets.

MACHEREY-NAGEL products are intended for GENERAL LABORATORY USE ONLY! MACHEREY-NAGEL products are suited for QUALIFIED PERSONNEL ONLY! MACHEREY-NAGEL products shall in any event only be used wearing adequate PROTECTIVE CLOTHING. For detailed information please refer to the respective Material Safety Data Sheet of the product! MACHEREY-NAGEL products shall exclusively be used in an ADEQUATE TEST ENVIRONMENT. MACHEREY-NAGEL does not assume any responsibility for damages due to improper application of our products in other fields of application. Application on the human body is STRICTLY FORBIDDEN. The respective user is liable for any and all damages resulting from such application.

DNA/RNA/PROTEIN purification products of MACHEREY-NAGEL are suitable for *IN VITRO*-USES ONLY!

ONLY MACHEREY-NAGEL products specially labeled as IVD are also suitable for *IN VITRO*-diagnostic use. Please pay attention to the package of the product. *IN VITRO*-diagnostic products are expressly marked as IVD on the packaging.

IF THERE IS NO IVD SIGN, THE PRODUCT SHALL NOT BE SUITABLE FOR *IN VITRO*-DIAGNOSTIC USE!

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